January 4, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Macomb County Legal News: Chief justice vows to continue court reforms

"The justices of the Michigan Supreme Court have unanimously elected Robert P. Young, Jr. to a second term as chief justice. The justices choose a chief justice at the beginning of every odd-numbered year."

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Grand Rapids Legal News.

Also see:

Robert P. Young, Jr., elected to second term as chief justice

Press release

The Detroit News: No extra prison time for Detroit homeowner in death of intruder

"[Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Michael Hathaway] Friday declined to impose additional prison time, but added a year of probation for a Detroit man convicted of chasing down and fatally shooting a person who'd broken into his home in 2009.... Friday's resentencing hearing was held after the state Court of Appeals in September ordered the case back to the circuit court. Prosecutors had claimed Hathaway's sentence was too light."

Full story

The Detroit News: Snyder to give State of the State speech Jan. 16

"Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder will deliver his third State of the State address on Jan. 16 at the state Capitol. The speech will start at 7 p.m. before a joint session of the Legislature inside the House chamber.... State lawmakers, Supreme Court justices, department heads and community leaders are expected to attend." Full story

Daily Press & Argus: Court Docket: Judge denies request in homes dispute

"... Marilyn and Leon Bonner sought a final order so they can appeal Livingston County Circuit Judge Michael P. Hatty's decisions in the case to the Court of Appeals, but the judge said their request was 'premature' because he had previously set a hearing date to determine if both sides have complied with his October order."

Full story

Daily Press & Argus: County has seen its share of high-profile cases

"... Livingston County's small-town feel was attractive to parents looking to flee crime-ridden cities. With growth, however, came crime — and with crime, some argue, the local community began to change.... In 2011, there were 994 noncapital criminal cases and 35 capital-felony cases on the docket, according to statistics from the Michigan Supreme Court's State Court Administrative Office."

Full story

Detroit Legal News: Forced out by age, Kelly retiring from top court

"Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kelly leaves office Tuesday after 16 years on the state's top court, much of that time in the minority responding to opinions set by the conservative majority." Full story

Grand Rapids Press: Attorney defends lawsuit against 71-year-old Grand Haven park groundskeeper in sledding death of boy

"... [Attorney John] Tallman is appealing two other related cases - one against Duncan Park commissioners, and another, against the "Duncan Park Trust," that were dismissed in December. The newest case was filed in late December in Ottawa County. Tallman said he is 'not leaving any doors open' as the other two cases move forward in the Michigan Court of Appeals."

Full story

Lansing State Journal: Editorial: Insurance ruling benefits consumers

"Michigan consumers benefited from a recent ruling by Ingham County Circuit Judge Clinton Canady III, who decided that certain records of the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association should be public under the Freedom of Information Act."

Full story

** The article is available by subscription only.

Macomb County Legal News: Tribute dinner set for Feb. 28

"... [Tribute Dinner] organizers announced that the 2013 recipient of the Purple Sport Coat Award is Michigan Supreme Court Justice-Elect Bridget Mary McCormack. County Circuit Court Judge David J. Allen, last year's recipient, will present her the award. The event's keynote speaker will be state Supreme Court Justice Brian Zahra."

Full story

The MiLW Blog: Several no-fault disputes on docket when MSC reconvenes

"The newest incarnation of the Michigan Supreme Court, with new Justice Bridget McCormack replacing retired Justice Marilyn Kelly, convenes for its first oral arguments on January 9 and 10."

Full story

Muskegon Chronicle: Five student absences to trigger truancy alert, welfare benefits at risk

"... Local schools, agencies and the new prosecutor have come up with a plan that includes family mediation services to get truant students back to class. Parents who don't cooperate face jail time and even the loss of state assistance."

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: COMMENTARY: Time guidelines are part of real justice

State Court Administrator Chad C. Schmucker writes "In his guest column, 'Dashboard justice?' (Dec. 28, 2012), attorney Mike Nichols charges that Michigan's courts are under 'arbitrary deadlines' for timeliness, and he also seems to think that timeliness is the only performance measurement the Supreme Court wants the trial courts to apply."

Full story